



LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF DAYTON, INC.

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GARY J. WESTON
Executive Director

August 18, 1997

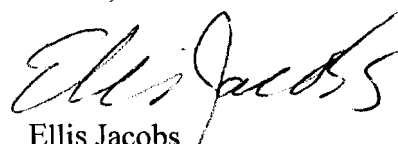
Office of the Secretary
cc Docket No. 96-45
Federal Communications Commissioner
Room 222
1919 M St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to have been nominated to serve on the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee.

I feel that my background and experience in Universal Service issues, particularly as they relate to low income consumers, will be valuable to the Committee and I am committed to actively participating in good faith to achieve the objectives of the Committee.

Yours,


Ellis Jacobs
Attorney at Law

EJ:bt



Ohio Community Computing Center Network

P.O. Box 82231
Columbus, Ohio 43202
Phone/Fax (614) 263-6587
Email: carwilli@ctcnet.org

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**NOMINATION OF ELLIS JACOBS
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

0096-45

10/21/97

A. Name and Title of Nominee, and a description of the interests that the nominee will represent.

Ellis Jacobs, Director of Litigation at the Legal Aid Society of Dayton, is being nominated to represent the interests of low-income consumers.

B. Applicant's mailing address, email, telephone and fax number

Ellis Jacobs
Legal Aid Society of Dayton
333 W. First St. Suite 500
Dayton, OH 45402
Phone - 937-228-8088, ext. 111
Fax - 937-449-8131

C. Evidence that nominee is authorized to represent parties related to the interests the nominee proposes to represent

See attached nomination letter and letters of support.

D. The reasons the applicant or nominee is an interested party

See attached nomination letter and letters of support.

E. Written commitment that the nominee shall actively participate in good faith in the objectives of the committee

See attached written commitment prepared by nominee.

No. of Copies rec'd
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Ohio Community Computing Center Network

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Columbus, Ohio 43202
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Email: carwilli@ctcnet.org

August 19, 1997

Mr. Reed Hundt, Chairman
Office of the Secretary
CC Docket No. 96-45
Federal Communications Commission
Room 222
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The Ohio Community Computing Center Network (OCCCN) nominates Ellis Jacobs of the Legal Aid Society of Dayton, Ohio to the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee as a director representing the interests of low-income consumers.

As the chairman of the OCCCN, as well as one of its founding members, Mr. Jacobs has shown himself to be a diligent leader, activist, and eloquent spokesperson both in Ohio and nationally in promoting the public interest as computers and telecommunications technologies are advanced. Mr. Jacobs' contributions in this realm are having very practical effects -- his work is directly resulting in the opening of 14 community computing centers around Ohio. Each center focuses on narrowing the gap between technology haves and have-nots.

Mr. Jacobs' work has centered on ensuring equal access to computers and telecommunications technologies for people with low-incomes. As the attorney representing the Edgemont Neighborhood Coalition, Mr. Jacobs was a key negotiator in crafting a settlement between Ameritech Ohio and consumer groups in 1994 as Ameritech went before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) in an alternative rate regulation case. His innovative approach in seeking funding for community computing resulted in a number of public interest commitments by Ameritech, including \$2.2 million to open 14 community computing centers in low-income neighborhoods around the state. This was the first time in the United States that a case before a public utilities commission resulted in funding of community computing in low-income neighborhoods.

It was following these negotiations between Ameritech and the consumer groups that the OCCCN was formed in order to oversee the process of establishing the 14 centers, and Mr. Jacobs has served as board chairman of the OCCCN since its inception. The results of Mr. Jacobs' work with OCCCN, Ameritech and the PUCO are impressive. To date, 11 of the 14 community computing centers have opened and the remaining three are expected to open this fall. These centers are located libraries, community centers, churches, schools and social service agencies.

Ohio Community Computing Center Network

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Mr. Jacobs' extensive experience in promoting the public interest as it relates to technology access, as well as the practical effects of his work, make him an excellent candidate to represent the interests of low-income consumers.

It is clear from his work to date that Mr. Jacobs would actively participate in good faith in the objectives of this committee, as well as actively represent his constituency. I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Cary Williams
Coordinator

cc: Sheryl Todd, FCC Universal Service Branch
International Transcription Service, Inc.

ELLIS JACOBS
Legal Aid Society of Dayton
333 West First Street, Suite 500
Dayton, Ohio 45402
Phone: (937) 228-8088
Fax: (937) 449-8131

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BAR ADMISSIONS: Admitted to Ohio and Federal Bars, November 1981

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: Dayton Bar Association
American Bar Association

EDUCATION: University of Dayton School of Law - Dayton, Ohio
J.D. Degree, June 1981
Capital University, UWW - Columbus, Ohio
B.A. 1978

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF DAYTON, INC.
Dayton, Ohio
Litigation Director/Chief Counsel/Attorney
(May 1987 - present)
Supervise all attorneys on staff. Counsel and co-counsel cases which present difficult or novel issues. Focus on telecommunication and environmental cases.

CITY OF DAYTON
Dayton, Ohio
Civil Referee
(September 1985 - May 1987)
Presided over the city's landlord/tenant court, heard a variety of other cases referred by municipal judges.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE
Dayton, Ohio
Senior Appellate Attorney
(November 1983 - September 1985)
Appeals, habeas corpus, supervision of law student interns.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE
Dayton, Ohio
Trial Attorney
(November 1981 - November 1983)
Representation of indigent criminal defendants: felonies and misdemeanors; jury and court trials.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR HOUSING CENTER
Dayton, Ohio
Attorney/ Law Clerk
(May 1981 - November 1981)
Civil rights litigation, landlord/tenant law.

**RELEVANT
EXPERIENCE:**

TELEPHONE AND TECHNOLOGY ACCESS PROJECT
Director
(January 1995 - Present)
Provides public interest advocacy for the low income community on telecommunications issues.

OHIO COMMUNITY COMPUTING CENTER NETWORK
Chair
(January 1995 - Present)
As mandated by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO), administers funding for and provides support to computer centers in low income communities, including 14 centers funded as the result of a settlement in the Ameritech Alternative Regulation case.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
Chair
(May 1996 - Present)
As mandated by the PUCO, oversees the implementation of the low income lifeline program in the Ameritech-Ohio service territory.

**THE DAYTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS ROUNDTABLE
Chair**

(May 1996 - Present)

The Roundtable brings together representatives of schools, libraries, local government, and social service agencies to analyze the changing telecommunications environment and strategize about how to capture the benefits for the Dayton area.

**EDGEMONT NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION
Counsel**

(February 1993 - Present)

Edgemont is an organization in a low income African-American community in Dayton, Ohio. Intervened and actively participated on their behalf in a wide range of telecommunication cases and dockets including:

- The Federal Communication Commission and Joint Board Universal Service proceedings.
- The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) local competition guidelines docket.
- The PUCO minimum telephone service standards docket.
- The PUCO disconnection rule docket.
- Ameritech-Ohio Alternative Regulation case.
- Local telephone certification proceedings for fifteen new entrant companies in Ohio.

**SELECTED
PUBLICATIONS:**

Ellis Jacobs, "Expanding Low-Income Communities' Access to Telecommunications Technology", Clearinghouse Review, Vol. 29, Number 3, July 1995.

**SELECTED
PRESENTATIONS:**

"Public Education and the 1996 Telecommunications Act", Greater Miami Valley Educational Technology Council, Dayton, Ohio, April , 1997.

**“Advancing the Public Interest before State Utility Commissions”,
Community Technology Centers’ Network, Boston,
Massachusetts, June, 1996.**

**“Lessons from the World of Telecommunications”, National
Consumer Law Center, Washington, D.C., February, 1996.**

**“Networking and Collaborating to Level the Playing Field”, Ohio
Partners for Affordable Energy, Columbus, Ohio, January, 1996.**

**“National and Local Telecommunications Agendas: Advancing the
Public Interest in a Changing Environment”, Center for
Neighborhood Technology, Chicago, Illinois, November, 1995.**

**“Low Income Telecommunications Advocacy”, Utility Law
Training, Committee on Regional Training, Columbus, Ohio,
October, 1994.**

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CEEC



Community Technology Centers Network

August 19, 1997

Cary Williams, Coordinator
Ohio Community Computing Center Network (OCCCN)
P.O. Box 8231
Columbus, Ohio 43202

Dear Cary,

We are very excited to learn of the OCCCN nomination of Ellis Jacobs to be on the FCC's Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee, charged to select the universal service administrator, and we want to offer our support and encouragement for his appointment.

Ellis's work in telecommunications policy on behalf of the public interest and low income communities has been truly extraordinary. Not only has his leadership been instrumental in fashioning the Ameritech settlement which lead to the establishment of the OCCCN — he has clearly played a major role for all of CTCNet and our nearly 250 low-income agency affiliates across the country in bringing home the message about the importance of telecommunications policy in general and universal service in particular. As a lawyer trained and comfortable with the legalities involved and the sphere of discourse in which they are usually addressed, he has been able to articulate the needs of those ordinarily disenfranchised from the benefits of new technology. As an eloquent public speaker and writer, he has been able to translate what is happening in the public policy arenas so that the issues can best most clearly seen by broader, general public and low-income communities. His presentations before CTCNet conferences and in our publications gives clear indications of his talents and abilities in this regard.

We believe Ellis's appointment will give a serious voice to those ordinarily not consulted, we look forward to helping spread word of his involvement.

Very truly yours,

1731 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009-1146
TELEPHONE: (202) 234-8494
FAX: (202) 234-8584

OMB WATCH

August 12, 1997

Mr. Reed Hundt, Chairman
c/o Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W. Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt,

I am writing on behalf of OMB Watch to support the nomination of Ellis Jacobs of the Legal Aid Society of Dayton, Ohio for the Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee to represent low-income consumer interests.

Mr. Jacobs is uniquely qualified to serve in this capacity. He is the litigation director and chief counsel for the Legal Aid Society of Dayton, Inc., and has served in this capacity for over ten years. In this position, he has focused on telecommunications cases. He also has served as counsel for the Edgemont Neighborhood Coalition since 1993.

In his capacity as counsel for the Edgemont Neighborhood Coalition (an organization in a low-income African-American community in Dayton, Ohio), Mr. Jacobs has intervened and actively participated on its behalf in a wide range of telecommunications cases and dockets. These have included: the FCC and Joint Board Universal Service proceedings; the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) local competition guidelines docket; the PUCO minimum telephone services standards docket; the PUCO disconnection rule docket; and local telephone certification proceedings for fifteen new entrant companies in Ohio. Additionally, he was a key negotiator in crafting a settlement between Ameritech Ohio and consumer groups in 1994 in an Ameritech-Ohio alternative regulation case before the PUCO. This settlement provided \$2.2 million to open 14 community computing centers in low-income neighborhoods around Ohio — the first such funding settlement in the United States. This settlement also provided several millions of dollars for Ohio schools.

OMB Watch has been engaged in promoting the use of computers and telecommunications by community-based nonprofits since 1989, and we have worked with Mr. Jacobs in a variety of capacities since 1994. He has been an important source of information and insight for us and our colleagues both in Ohio and on the national level.

Finally, for over a year, Mr. Jacobs has chaired the Dayton Telecommunications Roundtable which brings together representatives of schools, libraries, local government, and social service agencies to analyze the changing telecommunications

Jacobs' Support Letter
OMB Watch
Page 2 of 2

Mr. Jacobs, thus, not only is fully and deeply conversant with telecommunications law and regulations, but also deeply familiar with the needs of and constraints upon low-income and low-income minority communities. He has worked with regulators, local governments, community-based nonprofits and community information and access providers and understands the dynamics of these different parties in the universal service and access area. Indeed, Mr. Jacobs has become a recognized spokesman for the public interest in telecommunications technologies for community development and for low-income advocacy in telecommunications policy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Patrice McDermott
Information and Communications Policy Analyst